

## Message Text

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64

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-08 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-06 EA-07 NEA-10 EB-07

AID-05 DHA-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 /118 W

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FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9221

INFO USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

USMISSION GENEVA

AMEMBASSY OECD PARIS

USMISSIONEC BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECOSOC, EGEN, UN, NI

SUBJECT: 61ST ECOSOC: GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT BY NIGERIA

1. GENERAL DEBATE STATEMENT OF THE NIGERIAN REPRESENTATIVE, LESLIE HARRIMAN (PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE TO THE UN), BEGAN WITH A LONG AND SOMEWHAT DISJOINTED ACCOUNT OF NIGERIAN VIEWS ON THE AFRICAN SITUATION, SOUTHERN AFRICA IN PARTICULAR. AFTER DEONOUNCING IN GENERAL THE UTILITY OF DIALOGUE WITH SOUTH AFRICA, HE SPECIFICALLY CHALLENGED THE UNITED STATES TO SHOW THAT THE KISSINGER-VOSTER MEETING HAD PRODUCED ANY MEANINGFUL RESULTS. IF NOT, HE CONTINUED, THE US SHOULD IMMEDIATELY INDICATE ITS WILLINGNESS TO SUPPORT THE LIBERATION MOVEMENTS RATHER THAN RACIST GOVERNMENTS. HE THEN PRAISED THE US, UK AND NORDIC COUNTRIES FOR THEIR ASSISTANCE TO THE FRONT-LINE STATES BUT SAID THAT IT WAS IRONIC THAT THESE COUNTRIES CONTINUED TO SUPPORT SOUTH AFRICA.

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2. HARRIMAN DESCRIBED THE ISRAELI ACTIONS IN ENTEBBE AS "AN

INEXCUSABLE INVASION." REFERRING TO THE 30TH UNGA RESOLUTION ON RACISM AND ZIONISM, HE SAID THAT THE GON WOULD WORK TO "EXPUNGE" THIS FROM THE RECORD BECAUSE THEY APPRECIATED THE SENSITIVITY OF SOME EUROPEAN COUNTRIES ON THIS ISSUE. HOWEVER, HE POINTED OUT, COLLABORATION BETWEEN ISRAEL AND SOUTH AFRICA WAS GROWING AND SUPPORTED BY CERTAIN EUROPEAN POWERS. HE FOUND A PARALLEL BETWEEN THE ENTEBBE AFFAIR AND THE SOUTH AFRICAN INVASION OF ANGOLA. WIHOUT MAKING ANY SPECIFIC ALLEGATION, HE NOTED THAT THE MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY KISSINGER AND VORSTER HAD TAKEN PLACE IN THIS TIME FRAME.

3. HARRIMAN CONCLUDED THIS PORTION OF HIS SPEECH WITH A SPECIFIC ATTACK ON THE FRENCH FOR SUPPLYINGTHE ARMS USED BY SOUTH AFRICA IN ANGOLA AND IN SOWETO. HE CALLED ON THE WESTERN POWERS TO FORSAKE THEIR "LUST FOR PROFIT" AND JOIN IN THE STRUGGLE FOR THE LIBERATION OF AFRICA.

4. THE REST OF HARRIMAN'S SPEECH WAS A DETAILED REHASH OF GON INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICIES WHICH, IN SUBSTANCE, ADDED UP TO A COMPLETE ENDORSEMENT OF THE G-77 POSITIONS. HE WOUND UP BY SAYING THAT REPORTS THAT NIGERIA WAS A WEALTHY COUNTRYWERE MALICIOUS LIES, THAT NIGERIA IN FACT NEEDED BOTH FINANCIAL AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE, AND THAT THE DEVELOPED COUNTRIES SHOULD CONTINUE TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COUNTRY.

5. COMMENT: IN A SUBSEQUENT INFORMAL CONVERSATION, AMBASSADOR HARRIMAN SAID THAT HIS USE OF THE WORD "EXPUNGE" IN REFERRING TO THE RACISM-ZIONISM RESOLUTION WAS AN OVERSTTEMENT IFTAKEN LITERALLY BUT THAT THE GON WOULD WORK SERIOUSLY TO BYPASS THE RESOLUTION SO AS TO MINIMIZE POTENTIAL CONFRONTATION ON THE ISSUE.

6. WHILE THE GENERAL TONE OF HARRIMAN'S PRESENTATION WAS AGGRESSIVE, WE IN CONSULTATION WITH THE UK AND FRANCE DECIDED THAT NO REPLY WAS CALLED FOR. SMITH

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## Message Attributes

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